

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

-against-

RUBEN WEIGAND,

Defendant.

Case No. 1:20-cr-00188 (JSR)

(ECF Case)

NOTICE OF FILING OF LETTER

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that attached is a letter to the Hon. Jed S. Rakoff from
Michael J. Gilbert dated March 17, 2021.

Dated: New York, New York
March 17, 2021

DECHERT LLP

By: /s/ Michael J. Gilbert
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March 17, 2021

Hon. Jed S. Rakoff
District Judge
United States District Court for the
Southern District of New York
Daniel Patrick Moynihan
United States Courthouse
500 Pearl St.
New York, NY 10007-1312

Re: *United States v. Akhavan & Weigand*, No. 20-Cr-188 (Application for Lynda Larsen to
Testify Remotely)

Dear Judge Rakoff:

On behalf of Defendant Ruben Weigand, the undersigned counsel respectfully requests that defense witness Lynda Larsen be allowed to testify at trial via live two-way video. Ms. Larsen is a private investigator hired by Mr. Weigand's counsel to conduct test transactions through the Eaze website. Counsel anticipates Ms. Larsen's direct testimony will be no longer than 45 minutes. Ms. Larsen resides in Los Angeles, California and, thus, would have to travel in order to testify in person. Ms. Larsen has underlying health conditions that make travel during the COVID-19 pandemic unsafe. As the Court has noted, a defendant's constitutional right to confront a witness is not implicated where, as here, the defense calls a friendly witness. Trial Tr. at 1731:23-1732:5 (Mar. 16, 2021). The undersigned counsel agrees to cover all costs and arrangements associated with Ms. Larsen's testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Michael J. Gilbert

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